

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the Abstract as follows:

A work surface guide for portable hand-operated power tools allows their adaptation to a fixed-bed form (for example, a circular saw may be used as a radial arm saw or sliding miter saw). A pair of parallel rails are spaced laterally outwardly and above a table or other work surface so that the power tool may slide along these rails to cut matter located in a cutting area situated below and beneath the rails (and protruding from the edge of the work surface beneath the rails). A board fence is pivotally attached to one of the rails to extend onto the work surface, thereby allowing the board fence to be adjusted to some desired angle, a board to be situated against the board fence to protrude beneath the rails and into the cutting area, and the power tool to be run along the rails to cut the board. **The work surface guide is readily removable and replaceable on different work surfaces, allowing it to be easily transported to different locations for use with different power tools.**

Please amend the paragraph bridging page 2 line 10-page 3 line 8 as follows:

Referring to **FIGS. 1** and **2**, a preferred version of the work surface guide **100** includes an elongated inner guide rail **102** and an elongated outer guide rail **104** aligned at least substantially parallel to the inner guide rail **102**. A power tool (e.g., the circular saw **12** shown in **FIG. 2**) may slide or otherwise ride on the inner and outer guide rails **102** and **104** so that its cutting head extends between the guide rails **102** and **104** into a cutting area **110** defined below and between the guide rails **102** and **104**. Opposing spaced frame members **106** support the guide rails **102** and **104** and extend downwardly to terminate in frame member attachment ends **108** which are adapted to affix to a mounting surface (e.g., to a table **10** as shown in **FIG. 2**) to support the guide rails **102** and **104** in a plane spaced above the plane of the mounting surface. This is preferably done by having each frame member attachment end **108** include a downwardly extending vertical leg **112**, and a horizontal leg **114** extending from the vertical leg **112** (and away from the ~~from the~~ inner and outer guide rails **102** and **104**), so that the vertical and horizontal legs **112** and **114** define a mounting mouth **116** which can receive a corner edge of a mounting surface **10** therein (e.g., with the horizontal leg **114** resting atop the mounting surface **10** and the vertical leg **114** abutting the side surface of the corner edge of the mounting surface **10**). The frame members **106** thereby support the guide rails **102** and **104** above the mounting surface **10** with the cutting area **110** located adjacent to the corner edge of the mounting surface **10**. The frame members **106** include cutting tool end stops **120** extending above the frame members **106**, whereby a power tool **12** traveling on the guide rails **102** and **104** travels between the cutting tool end stops **120**. Additionally, at least one of the guide rails **102** and **104** preferably includes a cutting tool side stop **122** which extends above the guide rails **102** and **104**, whereby a power tool **12** traveling on the guide rails **102** and **104** travels adjacent the cutting tool side stop **122**, and may ride against the cutting tool side stop **122** to better ensure that the cutting head of the power tool **12** travels in a path parallel to the guide rails **102** and **104**.

Please amend the paragraph bridging page 10 line 1-page 11 line 4 as follows:

Initially, the inner board fence end 140 is adapted to slidably receive a sacrificial elongated cut guide fence member 144 therein, thereby allowing the cut guide fence member 144 to be adjustably extended into the cutting area 110 from the board fence inner end 140 (or entirely retracted within the inner board fence end 140, if desired). Where the board fence 124 is defined as a tubular member having an open inner end 140, this open inner end 140 is preferably sized and configured such that it can telescopically receive a length of some commonly-sized stock lumber (or some other common, relatively inexpensive, and easily cuttable material) to serve as the cut guide fence member 144. For example, the board fence 124 might be sized to telescopically receive a length of 1 X 1 lumber, 1 X 2 lumber, or 2 X 4 lumber therein. When the cut guide fence member 144 is received within the board fence 124, it will swing with the board fence 124 within the cutting area 110, and will effectively extend the board fence 124 into the cutting area 110. During cutting, the end of the cut guide fence member 144 may be cut off, and its cut end will serve to indicate to the user where any subsequent cuts will be made on a board 14 resting against the board fence 124. Thus, when a user wants a board 14 cut at a specific location, the user can simply situate the board 14 against the side surface 138 of the board fence 124 so that the desired cutting location is aligned with the cut end of the cut guide fence member 144, and the user may then drive the power tool 12 across the guide rails 102 and 104 to cut the board 14 at the desired location. When the user wishes to ~~realign to board~~ realign the board fence 124 to a different angle (such that the cut end of the cut guide fence member 144 will no longer accurately indicate the path of travel of the cutting head), the user may simply pull an additional length of the cut guide fence member 144 from the board fence 124 so that the end of the cut guide fence member 144 may again be cut off to indicate the location of subsequent cuts. Some means for releasibly locking the cut guide fence member 144 with respect to the board fence 124 is preferably provided, and as best seen in FIGS. 3 and 4, this may take the form of a thumbwheel 146 which has a threaded member (not shown) extending therefrom through the wall of the board fence 124 to engage the cut guide fence member 144. Thus, the thumbwheel 146 may be actuated to releasibly engage the cut guide fence member 144 within the board fence 124 once it is extended from the board fence 124 by some desired length.